

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 8, 16, 20 and 24. Please add new Claims 30-45. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Withdrawn) A method of inducing an immune response to a T-cell independent antigen in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and the T-cell independent antigen.
2. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a carbohydrate, a lipid, a glycolipid, a carrier conjugate, a lipopolysaccharide and a phage.
3. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 2 wherein the carbohydrate antigen is a polysaccharide antigen.
4. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 3 wherein the polysaccharide antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a bacterial capsular antigen and a bacterial cell wall antigen.
5. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is from bacteria selected from the group consisting of: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Haemophilus influenzae*.
6. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 1 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.
7. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 6 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.

8. (Currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 1~~ A method of inducing an immune response to a T-cell independent antigen in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and the T-cell independent antigen, wherein the interleukin-12 is administered as a polynucleotide under conditions in which the interleukin-12 is expressed *in vivo* and an immune response to the T-cell independent antigen is induced in the host.
9. (Withdrawn) A method of enhancing an immune response against a T-cell independent antigen in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and the T-cell independent antigen.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a carbohydrate, a lipid, a glycolipid, a carrier conjugate, a phosphorylcholine, a lipopolysaccharide and a phage.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 10 wherein the carbohydrate antigen is a polysaccharide antigen.
12. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11 wherein the polysaccharide antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a bacterial capsular antigen and a bacterial cell wall antigen.
13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is from bacteria selected from the group consisting of: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Haemophilus influenzae*.
14. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.
15. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 14 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.

16. (Currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 9~~ A method of enhancing an immune response to a T-cell independent antigen in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and the T-cell independent antigen, wherein the interleukin-12 is administered as a polynucleotide under conditions in which the interleukin-12 is expressed *in vivo* and an immune response to the T-cell independent antigen is enhanced in the host.
17. (Withdrawn) A method of inducing an immune response to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and a T-cell independent antigen of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*.
18. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 17 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.
19. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.
20. (Currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 17~~ A method of inducing an immune response to *Streptococcus pneumoniae* in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and a T-cell independent antigen of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, wherein the interleukin-12 is administered as a polynucleotide under conditions in which the interleukin-12 is expressed *in vivo*.
21. (Withdrawn) A method of inducing an immune response to *Neisseria meningitidis* in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and a T-cell independent antigen of *Neisseria meningitidis*.
22. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 21 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 22 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.
24. (Currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 21~~ A method of inducing an immune response to *Neisseria meningitidis* in a host, which comprises administering to the host an effective amount of interleukin-12 and a T-cell independent antigen of *Neisseria meningitidis*, wherein the interleukin-12 is administered as a polynucleotide under conditions in which the interleukin-12 is expressed *in vivo*.
25. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising interleukin-12 and a T-cell independent antigen.
26. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 25 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a carbohydrate antigen, a lipid antigen, a glycolipid antigen, a carrier conjugate antigen, a phosphorylcholine antigen, a lipopolysaccharide antigen and a phage antigen.
27. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 26 wherein the carbohydrate antigen is a polysaccharide antigen.
28. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 27 wherein the polysaccharide antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a bacterial capsular antigen and a bacterial cell wall antigen.
29. (Withdrawn) The composition of Claim 25 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is from bacteria selected from the group consisting of: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Haemophilus influenzae*.
30. (New) The method of Claim 8 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a carbohydrate, a lipid, a glycolipid, a carrier conjugate, a lipopolysaccharide and a phage.

31. (New) The method of Claim 30 wherein the carbohydrate antigen is a polysaccharide antigen.
32. (New) The method of Claim 31 wherein the polysaccharide antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a bacterial capsular antigen and a bacterial cell wall antigen.
33. (New) The method of Claim 8 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is from bacteria selected from the group consisting of: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Haemophilus influenzae*.
34. (New)) The method of Claim 8 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.
35. (New) The method of Claim 34 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.
36. (New) The method of Claim 16 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a carbohydrate, a lipid, a glycolipid, a carrier conjugate, a lipopolysaccharide and a phage.
37. (New) The method of Claim 36 wherein the carbohydrate antigen is a polysaccharide antigen.
38. (New) The method of Claim 37 wherein the polysaccharide antigen is selected from the group consisting of: a bacterial capsular antigen and a bacterial cell wall antigen.
39. (New) The method of Claim 16 wherein the T-cell independent antigen is from bacteria selected from the group consisting of: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Haemophilus influenzae*.

40. (New)) The method of Claim 16 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.
41. (New) The method of Claim 40 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.
42. (New) The method of Claim 20 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.
43. (New) The method of Claim 42 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.
44. (New) The method of Claim 24 wherein the immune response is a humoral immune response.
45. (New) The method of Claim 44 wherein the humoral immune response results in an enhanced IgG2a and IgG3 antibody response.